



THE MINER'S RIGHT

The North Queensland Miner's Association Incorporated
Representing Miners, Prospectors and Associated Industries
February 2017

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www.ngma.com.au

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/NorthQueensland
MinersAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/NorthQueenslandMinersAssociation)

Next Meetings:

Monday
8th May
Mareeba Leagues
Club 1:00pm

PRESIDENTS REPORT – Fiona Abbey

Welcome to 2017! We must apologise for getting out this Miners Right a bit later than what is the usual. 2017 has started off as a cracker and time to fill in these roles has to compete with everything else. We will be back on track for the May one.

We have a few matters that are on the table that continue from 2016 and beyond, which includes the Emergency Fire Levy. Unfortunately this topic is one that we are fighting the hardest at the moment to get a resolution, however in the space of 12 months this portfolio has had THREE new Ministers and with each new Minister the Department seems to make us start all over again. We aren't letting this issue drop with Claire and Vicky constantly on the case.

With the shuffle of some of the board of NQMA and others taking a well-earned break from many many years of service to the Association, we will have a few gaps in our volunteers for the 2017 Gold Panning Event. The most important being Frank's Sausage Sizzle which gives us sustenance during the day. If anyone would like to take on this task (with possible naming rights up for grabs) please let myself or Claire know and we can pass on details. Also needed is a Signage person or persons. This task involves putting up the NQMA GOLD Panning signs around the Tablelands 2 weeks prior to the event. All information including maps etc comes with the job! Please see where you can assist with this important day in the NQMA Calendar!

DNRM held an information session at the Mareeba Leagues Club on 14 February 2017 with attendance of about 50 people! The information included explanation of the changes to the various Mining acts that come into play in 2016. This session was well received and appreciated and here's hoping it happens on a more regular basis. If you didn't attend the session and would like the DNRM presentation please let me know and I will send it out.

It was very sad to hear the passing of Mr Murray Hoy on 13 February, with word getting through to us at the NQMA meeting. Murray has been a true stalwart of mining in North Queensland and a very kind person, he attended NQMA meetings in person on a regular basis until illness limited his travel. Murray will be missed.

Our Next meeting is Monday 8th May and we would love to see more members attending if possible – if there is anything you would like discussed please do not hesitate to let someone on the committee know so it can be tabled.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEVY

By: Claire Mackney

In 3 November 2016 Vicky Lake and I attended a teleconference with the office of Minister Bill Byrne, Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services (QPFES). In the teleconference we were assured that the Ministers office would have a resolution for us within 4 – 6 weeks, 8 days later there was a cabinet reshuffle and Minister Mark Ryan was appointed as the new Minister for QPFES. With the appointment of the new Minister, it appears that we go back to the beginning yet again. On 23 January 2017, I spoke with Dominic Moore, Senior Policy Adviser to the Minister who advises that he has sent the request back to the QPFES levy team to provide information to the new Minister. Given that the levy team have provided this information time and time again to each Minister (and there have been several) and that Dominic was also the adviser to Bill Byrne, we find this simply unacceptable. We are now planning our media strategies in relation to this issue.

In other EML news, some members have received correspondence from Cook Shire Council in relation to the requirement for statutory declarations to be submitted annually to ensure that their projects are being categorised correctly. I have confirmed with Jason Smith of the QPFES levy team and he advises that the act provides that the council “inspect” the properties annually to ensure correct category is being applied. Given the remote nature of the councils we tend to deal with, their work around for inspection is to have the miner provide a statutory declaration prior to 30 June each year to ensure information is up to date. Mareeba Shire Council have advised that they will not be following suit at this stage but they may be compelled to at a later point in time.

Having spoken with QPFES and some councils, the following table shows which categories will be accepted for reduction of levy fees if eligible.

Levy Grouping	Cost per annum	Activities (for the forthcoming 12 months)
1.04 Vacant land, including vacant land with a fence	\$25.00	Nil activities, nil work carried out during the levy period. No infrastructure or plant and machinery parked on-site.
2.08 Outbuilding 2.13 Single Unit Residence	\$99.60	Shed/dwelling onsite, no work being carried out.
5.06 Industry—extractive (less than 10,001m ²)	\$810.00	Areas less than 1ha. Mining and related activities occurring or plant and machinery stored on-site.
8.03 Industry—extractive (10,001–20,000m ²)	\$1458.40	Areas of 1 - 2ha. Mining and related activities occurring or plant and machinery stored on-site.
10.03 Industry—extractive (more than 20,000m ²)	\$1458.40	Areas greater than 2ha. Mining and related activities occurring or plant and machinery stored on-site.

We’re hoping to affect change before we go to another election and potentially have another new Minister to deal with.

If you have any specific concerns in relation to the EML as it effects your tenure, please contact Claire Mackney or Vicky Lake to discuss the matter.

HERITAGE MATTERS

North Queensland is well recognised as a historical mining area. Due to the dedication and hard work of people in our community, we are fortunate to have a number of Mining themed museums and visitor centres well worth a visit if you happen to be passing.

Herberton Mining Museum and Visitor Information Centre

Located in Herberton on the Atherton Tablelands, the Museum was built on a part of the original Reward Claim purchased by the man who discovered payable tin on the site on 19th April, 1880. Much of the machinery is still located on site and some are the only known examples of their kind in Australia.

There are extensive Mineral collections donated and on loan to the museum from local Geologists, Prospectors and lapidary clubs as well as comprehensive information on alluvial and hard rock mining. A real attraction is the model dredge that can be found in the museum.

Irvinebank Mining Museums

For those travelling through Irvinebank, a visit to the towns mining museums is well worth the stop.

Loudoun House was built in 1884 by miner and entrepreneur John Moffat, today it displays the rich history of Irvinebank. The museum also acts as a visitor centre and you can pick up guides for site visits and activities around Irvinebank.

The mill and treatment works are located on the foreshore of Loudoun Weir and widely touted as the tin mining town that refused to die, many historical buildings stand today as monuments of days gone by.

True Blue Visitor Centre (Croydon)

Are you planning a trip travelling the Savannah Way? Why not drop into Croydon's True Blue Visitor Centre on your way through?

Croydon, like many towns in North Queensland, was founded around the discovery of gold in 1885. The Visitor Centre houses a significant collection of heritage items, photographs, information displays, pioneer and descendant genealogy information. It also has an internet café for those wishing to check in from the road.

TerrEstrial (Georgetown)

TerrEstrial is a visitor information centre, library, internet café and home of The Ted Elliott Mineral Collection. Located in Georgetown, it's a popular stop for travellers and keen fossickers on the way to the Agate Creek fossicking grounds.

The Collection comprises over 4500 specimens and is magnificently displayed throughout nine themed rooms, ranging from local mining to specimens from around the World. This collection is a culmination of a lifetimes work by Ted Elliott and is reputed to be the most detailed and comprehensive private collection in Australia, rivalled only by the Geological Museum in Canberra. There is a small fee for viewing the Collection however it's well worth the cost.

Before setting out for a visit to the above centres, it's recommended to check for seasonal opening times.

NATIVE TITLE INFORMATION

NQMA Native Title Officer and representative for Native Title matters

NQMA contact: Paul.E.Crossland- (07) 4095 3324 Email- pc403@bigpond.com

Members seeking assistance with their native title matters, can contact Paul Crossland to discuss their specific requirements.

Key Contacts for Native Title Matters:

Native Title Unit - DNRM

Department of Natural Resources and Mines:

Field and Land Access North Region

Address: Level 9, Verde Tower, Flinders Street

Postal: PO Box 1752, Townsville Qld 4810

Phone: 07 44479227

Email: FLANorth@dnrm.qld.gov.au

North Queensland Land Council

FAME Unit

61 Anderson Street, CAIRNS QLD 4870

Phone: (07) 4042 7000

Fax: (07) 4042 7070

Email: reception@nqlc.com.au

Ewamian People:

Ewamian Aboriginal Corporation

9A Hort Street Mareeba Qld 4870

Phone: (07) 4092 2555

Fax: (07) 4092 2555

Email: Sharon@Ewamian.com.au

Djungan People:

Nguddaboolgan Aboriginal Corporation

C/- Post Office

Yarrabah Qld 4871

Phone: 0473 614 508 (Judulu Neal)

Email: NguddaboolganPBC@gmail.com

Western Yalanji People:

Western Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation

39B Constance Street, Mareeba, QLD 4880

Postal: PO. Box 2682 Mareeba, QLD 4880

Phone: (07) 4092 6712

Email: admin@westernyalanjiCorp.com

Environmental Compliance Matters

Late last year the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection started rolling out their new online system known as 'Connect'. The purpose of Connect is that industry can manage all of their reporting and compliance requirements in an online portal and as time goes by, I believe that functionality will increase.

One of the downsides that users have recently discovered is that the department charges a "user fee" when they issue an invoice for your environmental authority (EA). It's important to note that this fee only applies to fees paid via the Connect portal. EA holders paying their fees by means other than the Connect portal do not have to pay the fee.

For more information in relation to registering to use Connect phone 1300 130 372 (option 4), email connecthelp@ehp.qld.gov.au or go to <http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/connect/get-started/>.

WEEDS, FERALS, AND THE SMALL MINER

Contributed by Rob Ryan

'Chinee Apple', lantana, rubber vine, bellyache bush: plants familiar to those who work along the rivers and creeks of north Queensland. They choke out the native vegetation, make impenetrable thickets, and poison cattle, sheep, and horses. Some are even toxic to humans. Less familiar perhaps to the miner are such things as hymenachne, pond apple, Giants Rat Tail Grass, Gamba Grass, Candyleaf or Siam Weed. These swamp pasture grasses in the savannah or the understory in the rain forest. Wild pigs leave holes in the flats and rabbits chew out the vegie patch. Gamba grass can stand 2 m tall and burns with a ferocious intensity. Many of these plants were brought into the country for valid reasons, such as for fodder or ornament. Others have piggy backed in grain or stockfeed, packsaddles, timber, or such like. But it is increasingly being realised that most do more harm than good in the long run.

At a recent meeting of the Pest Management Advisory Committee in Mareeba, council pest controller Sid Clayton outlined the range of pests that infest the far north, their spread, the damage they can do, and the success, or otherwise in some cases, of efforts to eradicate them. Surprisingly, some of these efforts are succeeding and the infestations are being reduced and even eliminated. Unfortunately, most of these menaces had become well established before funds were available and any action was taken to stop them. Sid explained that the best hope of preventing infestation is to catch it before it gets established. Most of these plants have seeds that can lie dormant for years, many can throw their seeds over metres from the parent plant, all bear fruit that wildlife loves to eat and spread., and most drop seed that floats down the rivers and creeks in the wet. Once well-established it is almost impossible to get rid of them.

And that is where the small miner comes in: reporting and prevention. Constantly travelling the back roads, in close contact with the country, and spread all along the drainage lines, the mining community is as well placed as any to spot and report the arrival of unwanted weeds and sightings of feral pests. Miners can also help prevent the spread by cleaning plant and equipment before moving from site to site. Sid and his dedicated team are always available to provide advice and assistance to anyone who wants to help, with brochures of declared weeds and portable wash down plants for cleaning gear before it is moved.

Sid advises that he would be happy to attend a meeting of the North Queensland Miners Association to tell the story and give advice on how to contact him. Finance can also be available to pay for chemicals, fuel, and even plant hire to support eradication if the specific weed or pest is on the current list of threats.



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LINKS LINKS and MORE LINKS – for searching of all things land, mining and mapping:

Mines Online Maps – now includes SPOT satellite imagery:

<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industry/mining/mining-online-services/minesonlinemaps>

Register for MyMinesOnline:

<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industry/mining/mining-online-services/myminesonline/register>

Mines online:

<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industry/mining/mining-online-services/mines-online>

Public Searches for Resource Authorities:

<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industry/mining/mining-online-services/mining-permit-search>

Application process for resource authorities:

<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industry/mining/applications-compliance/applying-resource-authority/application-process>

Fossicking: www.dnrm.qld.gov.au/mining/fossicking

Land access: <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industry/csg-Ing-industry/csg-Ing-information-landholders/csg-land-access-laws>

Mining and resources maps and spatial data:

<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industry/mining/geoscience-data-information/geological-maps-notes>

Queensland Globe – mining permits, land valuations etc:

<http://www.dnrm.qld.gov.au/mapping-data/queensland-globe>

Qld Globe (2) – pre-release version: <https://qldglobe.information.qld.gov.au/>

QI Aerial Photography: large files if saved to computer hard disk and / or memory:

<https://qimagery.information.qld.gov.au/>

Bing Maps: <https://www.bing.com/maps?q=&mkt=en&FORM=HDRSC4>

Planet Scenes Imagery: <https://www.planet.com/docs/spec-sheets/sat-imagery/>

Editors Notes:

The Miners Right gets published every couple of months and usually in time for the upcoming meeting. The MR is a great way to get information out to the Mining public. We are constantly asking for contributions to make the newsletter interesting and informative. If you would like to see something in particular or you can contribute in stories, historical information or general mining info please send an email to fiona.abbey@cstdtin.com.au or phone through on 07 40539808.

Please support our Associated Members

Australian Mining and Exploration Title Services Pty Ltd (AMETS) 07 4092 6431
Mining & Resource Permit Services (Reuben Thomas) 07 40566516
TECSOL Australia Pty Ltd (Emma Montgomery) 07 3855 8875
Mining Tenure Management (Michele Mobbs) 07 4093 0052
Anson Advisory (Business, Agri and Environmental Services) 0438 877 856
Mangoes Mapping Pty Ltd 0409 885 776
Tableland Analytical (Assaying) 07 4096 2185
HEH Pty Ltd (Earthmoving) 07 4092 2477
Cooktown Earthmoving & Quarrying 07 4069 5340
Bolwarra Enterprises (Earthmoving & Quarrying) 07 4091 6666
Drill North Pty Ltd, Malanda (Drill Rigs) 07 4095 1199
Boundary Mining Carbon Services, 07 4091 4905
Tolga Traders, Tolga (Trailers and Heaters) 07 4095 4296
BJ Training & Mine Services (incl Explosives Training) 0428 877 940
Tilly's Crawler Parts Pty Ltd – Freecall 1800Tillys10
Bremar Minerals (Tin Buyer) 0429 440 604
Palmer River Roadhouse, 07 4060 2020
Marano's Fuel (All Fuel & Oil Needs) 07 4098 8222
Kim Hillier Turbo Pans 0428 250 364
Atherton Mower and Chainsaw Services 07 4091 7499
Nth Qld Metlabs, 07 4097 6110
Queensland Small Miners Association
Cairns Mineral & Lapidary Club
Atherton Tablelands Mineral and Lapidary Club

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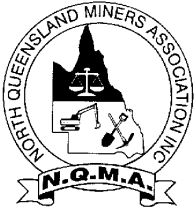
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NORTH QUEENSLAND MINERS' ASSOCIATION INC.

ABN 76 525 585 093

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I/We.....
the undersigned, being an eligible person, partnership, or company, hereby apply for Membership of the North Queensland Miners' Association Inc. (See eligibility clause below)

BUSINESS NAME.....

POSTAL ADDRESS.....
.....POSTCODE.....

CONTACT PERSON.....

Phone No during day:.....Fax No:.....

E-mail address if available.....

NUMBER and LOCATION of MINING TENEMENT/S held or ASSOCIATION WITH MINING
INDUSTRY.....
.....

I/We hereby agree to comply with the Rules and Regulations as prescribed in the Constitution of the North Queensland Miner's Association Inc.

Full Membership. Enclosed herewith is Annual Membership Fee of \$100.00.

Eligibility for Membership: *'Any person, partnership or company who: is actively involved in mining or prospecting; holds or has an application for any mining tenure allowable under the Queensland Mineral Resources Act 1989 or any Act that replaces it; has a tenement before the Land and Resources Tribunal; or has a direct professional interest in the mining industry.'*

Corporate Membership. Enclosed herewith is Annual Membership Fee of \$250.00.

Eligibility for Membership: *'Any company which: is actively involved in mining or prospecting; holds or has an application for any mining tenure allowable under the Queensland Mineral Resources Act 1989 or any Act that replaces it; has a tenement before the Land and Resources Tribunal; or has a direct professional interest in the mining industry.'*

Associate Membership. Enclosed herewith is Annual Membership Fee of \$40.00.

Eligibility for Associate Membership: *'Any person or partnership who has interests in fossicking for gold, gems and metals; or any company or individual providing goods or services to the mining industry but not directly involved in mining'.*

SIGNED

DATE/...../.....

Please send Application Form to:

NQMA Treasurer: Claire Mackney, C/- 395 Lake Street, CAIRNS NORTH QLD 4870
email: Claire.Mackney@bigpond.com